

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

STATUS CONFERENCE

IN RE PORK ANTITRUST LITIGATION

This Document Relates to:
All Actions

COURT MINUTES
BEFORE: Hildy Bowbeer
U.S. Magistrate Judge

Case No.: 18-cv-1776 (JRT/HB)
Date: March 16, 2022
Location: n/a (by videoconference)
Court Reporter: Paula Richter
Time: 10:06 am – 11:29 am
Total Time: 1 hours 23 minutes

APPEARANCES:

Class Plaintiffs:

- For Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs: W. Joseph Bruckner, Brian D. Clark, Joseph C. Bourne, Bobby Pouya, Michael Pearson, and Clifford H. Pearson
- For Commercial and Institutional Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs: A. Blaine Finley and Shawn M. Raiter
- For Consumer Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs: Breanna Van Engelen, Daniel C. Hedlund, Michelle J. Looby, and Shana Scarlett

Direct Action Plaintiffs:

- For the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico: Kyle G. Bates
- For Winn Dixie and Kraft Heinz DAPs: Jack G. Stern
- For Cheney Brothers DAPs: Kristin A. Gore
- For Sysco DAPs: Michael S. Mitchell, Sarah L. Jones, and Scott E. Gant
- For Action Meat DAPs: Matthew P. McCahill and Robert N. Kaplan
- For Kroger DAPs: Samuel J. Randall, William J. Blechman and Michael A. Ponzoli
- For Dollar General DAPs: Jeffrey Bergman¹
- For Nestle DAPs: David C. Eddy

Defendants:

- For Defendant Agri Stats: William L. Monts and Liam Phibbs
- For Defendant Clemens Foods Group, LLC: Max Samels
- For Defendant Hormel Foods Corp.: Craig S. Coleman
- For Defendant JBS USA Food Co.: Donald G. Heeman and Richard T. Vagas
- For Defendant Seaboard Foods LLC: Peter J. Schwingler

¹ The Court notes that Mr. Bergman is not listed as counsel of record for any plaintiff on the docket. The Court recommends he contact the Clerk's office if this is an oversight or file a notice of appearance if he has not already done so.

- For Defendant Smithfield Foods, Inc.: Rod Stone, John Anders Kvinge, and Brian Edward Robison
- For Defendant Triumph Foods, LLC: Christopher A. Smith and Abraham James Spung
- For Defendant Tyson Foods, Inc.: Jarod Taylor and Tiffany Rider Rohrbaugh

PROCEEDINGS:

The Court held a status conference to discuss two proposals: 1) a master amended DAP complaint and 2) appointment of liaison counsel and a plaintiffs steering committee. Counsel provided their immediate input on the topics.

As to the first proposal, the Court invited short written comments by letters filed no later than Tuesday, March 22, 2022. Counsel may reply to those initial comments by short letters no later than Thursday, March 24, 2022.

As to the second proposal, Judge Bowbeer agreed to speak with Chief Judge Tunheim about counsel's suggestion that a letter outlining the envisioned responsibilities of the liaison counsel and plaintiffs steering committee would help the plaintiffs to provide comments and ultimately provide a slate of nominees. An order inviting further comments will follow that conversation at a later date.

s/MJA
Judicial Law Clerk